

MINUTES

MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 65th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON TAXATION

Call to Order: Chair Jeff Essmann, on January 25, 2017 at 8:03 AM, in Room 152
Capitol

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Rep. Kelly Flynn, Vice Chair (R)
Rep. Tom Jacobson, Vice Chair (D)
Rep. Kim Abbott (D)
Rep. Becky Beard (R)
Rep. Zach Brown (D)
Rep. Mary Ann Dunwell (D)
Rep. Dave Fern (D)
Rep. Wylie Galt (R)
Rep. Jim Hamilton (D)
Rep. Adam Hertz (R)
Rep. George G. Kipp III (D)
Rep. Steve Lavin (R)
Rep. James O'Hara (R)
Rep. Alan Redfield (R)
Rep. Bridget Smith (D)
Rep. Tom Welch (R)
Rep. Kerry White (R)

Members Excused:

Chair Essmann
Rep. Ehli
Rep. G. Hertz

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Margot Miltenberger, Committee Secretary
Megan Moore, Legislative Branch

Audio Committees: These minutes are in outline form only. They provide a list of participants and a record of official action taken by the committee. The link to the audio recording of the meeting is available on the Legislative Branch website.

Committee Business Summary:

Hearing & Date Posted: HB 239, 1/18/2017; HB 254, 1/18/2017; HJ 4, 1/18/2017

00:04:49 Chair Essmann joined the meeting and took the chair

HEARING ON HB 254

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:05:01 Rep. Brad Tschida (R), HD 97, opened the hearing on HB 254, Eliminate late filing penalty for taxpayers that are entitled to a refund.

Proponents:

00:08:23 Bob Story, Montana Taxpayers Association

Opponents:

00:08:51 Gene Walborn, Department of Revenue (DOR)

Informational Witnesses: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:15:38 Rep. Hamilton

00:16:00 Gene Walborn, DOR

00:16:14 Rep. Dunwell

00:16:51 Gene Walborn, DOR

Closing by Sponsor:

00:18:40 Rep. Tschida

HEARING ON HB 239

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:20:30 Rep. Bill Harris (R), HD 37, opened the hearing on HB 239, Provide income tax benefits to employers and students for higher education costs.

EXHIBIT(tah18a01)

Proponents:

00:24:13 Abigail Belcher, Associated Students of the University of Montana (ASUM)

00:25:24 Webb Brown, Montana Chamber of Commerce (MCC)

00:26:20 Katy Westhoff, Montana Public Interest Research Group (MontPIRG)

00:27:09 Ronda Wiggers, Helena Chamber of Commerce

Opponents:

00:28:47 Eric Feaver, MEA-MFT

Informational Witnesses: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:33:23 Rep. A. Hertz

00:34:04 Rep. Harris

Closing by Sponsor:

00:35:08 Rep. Harris

HEARING ON HJ 4

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:41:04 Rep. Dave Fern (D), HD 5, opened the hearing on HJ 4, Interim study on the coal trust fund.

Proponents:

00:47:41 John Finn, Montana Library Association (MLA), Montana Library Federations
00:51:35 Nanette Gilbertson, Montana Library Association (MLA)

Opponents: None

Informational Witnesses: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:53:21 Rep. Beard
00:54:28 Rep. Fern
00:55:12 Rep. Beard
00:55:27 Nanette Gilbertson, MLA
00:56:05 Chair Essmann
00:56:59 Rep. Fern

Closing by Sponsor:

00:58:28 Rep. Fern

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 01:02:12

Margot Miltenberger, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT([tah18aad.pdf](#))